

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10099 092040Z

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG IS UN

SUBJECT: UNEF RENEWAL

REF: STATE 240688

SUMMARY: FAHMY REACTED UNFAVORABLY TO CHARGE'S PRESENTATION OF PROCEDURE FOR UNEF RENEWAL OUTLINED REFTEL, PARTICULARLY REFERENCE IN SUGGESTED SYG STATEMENT TO ISRAELI AGREEMENT TO ONE YEAR EXTENSION. HE SAID IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE IF SINGLE WORD RE ISRAELI AGREEMENT APPEARED IN SYG REPORT OR ANNOUNCEMENT OR ALSO IN RESOLUTION EXTENDING UNEF MANDATE. FAHMY DID AGREE TO ORAL PRESENTATION BY EGYPTIAN PERMREP, ABDUL MEGUID, OF LETTER WHICH HE HAD INTENDED TO SEND TO SYG INDICATING GOE ACCEPTANCE OF ONE YEAR EXTENSION. GIST OF LETTER COULD BE INCORPORATED IN SYG REPORT. FAHMY WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT IF SYG MENTIONS ISRAELI AGREEMENT HE WILL INSTRUCT MEGUID TO WITHDRAW EGYPTIAN CONSENT. END SUMMARY

1. I CALLED ON FAHMY AT HIS APARTMENT EVENING OF OCTOBER 9 AND MADE PRESENTATION BASED ON POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL. WHEN I PROVIDED LANGUAGE SUGGESTED IN PARA 4 REFTEL FOR SYG

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 10099 092040Z

ANNOUNCEMENT, FAHMY'S REACTION WAS IMMEDIATE AND

UNFAVORABLE.

2. FAHMY SAID THAT HE CANNOT ACCEPT EITHER THAT ISRAEL IN A LETTER OR THE SYG IN HIS REPORT INDICATE ISRAELI AGREEMENT TO ONE YEAR EXTENSION OF UNEF MANDATE. HE PROBABLY COULD AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT BOTH EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI PERMREPS REMAIN SILENT.

3. FAHMY EXPLAINED THAT MAIN OBJECT WAS RENEWAL OF MANDATE FOR ONE YEAR AND THAT ONLY WAY THIS CAN BE DONE IS WITH EGYPTIAN ACQUIESCENCE, SINCE THIS WAS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF EGYPTIAN SOVEREIGNTY. HE MAINTAINED THAT UNEF TROOPS WERE STATIONED ON EGYPTIAN SOIL -- EVEN IF SINAI WERE OCCUPIED -- AND THERE WOULD BE NO LEGAL BASIS FOR THEIR PRESENCE OTHER THAN EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT.

4. IN SUPPORT OF THIS POSITION HE ASKED THAT I RECALL TO THE SECRETARY THAT BOTH AT SALZBURG AND AT RECENT SHUTTLE NEGOTIATIONS THERE WAS A DISCUSSION OF ISRAELI CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE SOVIET OR CHINESE VETO OF MANDATE RENEWAL. ISRAELI HAD INSISTED THAT EGYPT -- NOT BOTH FAHMY NOTED -- COMMIT ITSELF TO ASK FOR APPLICATION OF UNITING FOR PEACE RESOLUTION IN SUCH EVENTUALITY. MOREOVER, DISCUSSION EVEN CONSIDERED SITUATION WHERE UNSC DEBATE MIGHT BE BLOCKED, IN WHICH CASE EGYPT SHOULD CONTACT NATIONS CONTRIBUTING TROOPS TO UNEF FORCE TO REQUEST THAT THEY REMAIN.

5. IF THERE WERE ANY ISRAELI INTERFERENCE IN RENEWAL PROCESS, EGYPT WOULD NOT ACCEPT IT. HOWEVER, FAHMY SAID HE WAS READY TO INSTRUCT ABDUL MEGUID TO READ TO SYG LETTER WHICH HE HAD INTENDED TO SEND HIM. SYG COULD INCORPORATE IN HIS REPORT GIST OF LETTER WHICH WOULD INDICATE GOE ACCEPTANCE RENEWAL FOR SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 CAIRO 10099 092040Z

ONE YEAR. HOWEVER, IF HE MENTIONS THAT ISRAEL AGREES TO ONE YEAR EXTENSION, FAHMY WOULD INSTRUCT MEGUID TO DECLARE THAT THIS WAS "ILLEGAL" AND TO WITHDRAW EGYPTIAN CONSENT TO RENEWAL. IF ISRAELIS PUSH ON THIS POINT, SINAI AGREEMENT WILL COLLAPSE.

6. AS FURTHER SUPPORT FOR EGYPTIAN POSITION, FAHMY REALLED SADAT REPLY TO BERNARD KALB'S

QUESTION RE DURATION OF MANDATE AT PRESS CONFERENCE
FOLLOWING INITIALLING CEREMONY, WHEN
PRESIDENT SADI IT WAS EGYPT'S SOVEREIGN RIGHT
TO DETERMINE LENGTH OF DURATION OF MANDATE.
IN THIS CONNECTION HE INSISTED THAT I REPORT
VERBATIM FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "WE ARE NOT
SUPPOSED TO PLAY HOOKY WITH BASIC NORMS OF INTER-
NATIONAL LAW".

7. AT CONCLUSION OF OUR DISCUSSION FAHMY REITERATED
THERE SHOULD BE NOT ONE SINGLE WORD IN SYG
REPORT ABOUT ISRAELI AGREEMENT TO ONE YEAR
EXTENSION, NOR INRESOLUTION EITHER. HE ALSO
ADDED THAT, IF THERE WERE NO AGREEMENT BEFORE
OCTOBER 24, THERE WOULD BE NO EGYPTIAN COMMITMENT
TO RENEW UNEF MANDATE.

8. I NOED THAT I FELT CERTAIN THAT SINAI
AGREEMENT WOULD BE SIGNED BEFOR THAT
DATE AND SAID THAT I WOULD REPORT HIS VIEWS ON
UNEF RENEWAL IMMEDIATELY.
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